

Message Text

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14
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 IO-13

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4833
INFO AMEMBASSY ROME

C O N F I D E N T I A L MILAN 1658

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, PGOV, PFOR, IT
SUBJECT: MILAN SOCIALIST URGES CLOSER US - PSI RELATIONS

REF MILAN 1594

1. PSI MILAN PROVINCIAL COUNCILLOR AND MEMBER OF PROVINCIAL EXECUTIVE (GIUNTA) WHO IS SOON TO VISIT US (REFTEL) CALLED ON EXECUTIVE OFFICER JULY 20 WITH TWO THINGS TO SAY. FIRST, PSI MUST WORK IN EARNEST TO DISTINGUISH ITSELF FROM COMMUNISTS, BOTH BEFORE ITALIAN ELECTORATE AND WORLD (AND ESPECIALLY US) OPINION. SECOND, US SHOULD DO WHAT IT CAN TO HELP ITALIAN SOCIALISTS IN THIS TASK.

2. PSI FIGURE SAID RECENT ELECTION OF BETTINO CRAXI AS PSI NATIONAL SECRETARY SHOULD HELP TURN PSI INTO MORE INDEPENDENT PARTY ALONG LINES OF OTHER SOCIALIST PARTIES IN EUROPE. HE FELT IT IMPORTANT THAT PSI INDEPENDENCE FROM PCI BE RECOGNIZED ESPECIALLY IN AMERICA, WHERE PRESS REPORTS ON ITALIAN POLITICAL SITUATION OFTEN REVERBERATE IN ITALY. HE HOPED USG, WOULD - WITHIN LIMITS OF POSSIBLE - WORK TO PROMOTE IMAGE OF PSI AS PARTY CLEARLY DISTINCT FROM COMMUNISTS.

3. PSI OFFICIAL IN QUESTION BELONGS TO PSI AUTONOMIST FACTION OF BETTINO CRAXI AND MILAN MAYOR CARLO TOGNOLI.

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HE IS ON CLOSE PERSONAL TERMS AT LEAST WITH LATTER. HE

DEMARCHE, THEREFORE, IS VERY PROBABLY ACCURATE REFLEXION OF HIGH
LEVEL PSI VIEWS.PARSONS

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NNN

Message Attributes

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